

Translation of the pertinent portions of a Notification of Forwarding the International Search Report and the Written Notification from the International Searching Authority, mailed 02/17/2005

This International Search Report comprises a total of five pages. Copies of the cited references are enclosed.

4. Regarding the title of the invention  
the wording filed by Applicant is approved.
5. Regarding the abstract  
the wording has been determined by the Office in accordance with Rule 38.2b) in the version shown in Field IV [and as it appears on the cover page of the published PCT application]
6. Fig. 1, as selected by the Office, is to be published with the abstract, since Applicant has not proposed a drawing figure.

WRITTEN NOTIFICATION FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING  
AUTHORITY

This notification contains information regarding the  
following items:

Field I Basis of the Report

Field V Reasoned Determination under Rule 43bis. 1(a)(i)

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Field I Basis of the Report

[no entries marked in this section]

Field V Reasoned Determination under Rule 43bis. 1(a)(i)

1. Determination

Novelty	Yes: Claims 2,5,6,8,12,16-19
	No: Claims 1,3,4,7,9-11,13- 15,20-28

Inventive Activities	Yes: Claims
	No: Claims 1 to 28

Commercial Applicability	Yes: Claims 1 to 28
	No: Claims

2. Documents and Explanations:

see the attached sheet

SHEET ATTACHED TO THE WRITTEN NOTIFICATION

**Re.: Item V**

1 Reference is made in the instant notification to the following documents:

D1: USP 5,236,188  
D2: FR 2 760 733

**2 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1**

Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses relate to this document) a device for depositing flat objects by/means with a conveying track (1) for conveying a flow of flat objects (2) to be deposited and a plurality N of paddle wheels (9), each with at least one compartment delimited by a paddle for taking over an object (2) from the conveying track (1) and depositing the object (2) at a deposit location (30, 31, 32), wherein the paddle wheels (9), which are arranged one behind the other along the conveying track and touch the conveying track (1), are rotatable in respect to each other with such a phase shift that of N objects conveyed one behind the other on the conveying track (1) each one reaches a compartment of another paddle wheel (9) (see Fig. 3).

Therefore the present independent apparatus claim 1 is not novel within the meaning of Article 33(2) PCT.

**3 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 25**

Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses relate to this document) a method for depositing flat objects (2) by means of a conveying track and paddle wheels (9), wherein the objects (2) are transported one behind the other along the conveying track (1) and one of these objects (2) is removed from the conveying track (1) and transported into a compartment of a first paddle wheel (9), wherein the remaining objects (2) are transported along the conveying track (1) to a second paddle wheel (9) which is arranged downstream of the first paddle wheel (9) in relation to the transport direction of the conveying track, and one of these objects (2) is taken from the conveying track (1) and is transported into a compartment of the second paddle wheel (9) (see Fig. 3).

Therefore the present independent method claim 25 is not novel within the meaning of Article 33(2) PCT.

### 3 DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2 to 24, 26 to 28

Claims 2 to 24, 26 to 28 do not contain any characteristics which, in combination with the characteristics of any claim from which they depend, meet the requirements of PCT in respect to novelty or inventive activities. In particular, documents D1 and D2 can be combined for claims 5 and 6.

Applicant is advised that some documents of the prior art disclose many technical characteristics of the present claims (in this connection see the appropriate documents in the search report).